

Mark Solomon

I have known about the EA Art School practically since I was born in 1941!

Dozens of artists in my life in many different media have been through programs and classes at the EA either as kids, young adults, or seniors including potters, painters, sculptors, print-makers and collage-artists whose work I have seen and respected and collected for decades.

It is wonderful that the EA has funds to renovate and upgrade the facilities - but the art school programs will die if the faculty and students and facilities are expected to go into suspended animation for two years and then to come out of the coma unscathed. Students will go elsewhere (if there can be an elsewhere) or more likely just give up. Faculty will have to go elsewhere (if there can be an elsewhere) and the community awareness of this resource will lose continuity and referrals of students to their friends will dry up and disappear.

DON'T THROW OUT THE BABY WITH THE BATH WATER - nurture the continuity while developing the context. Please.